

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Ables, et al

Serial No.: 09/593,550

Group Art Unit: 1774

Filed: June 14, 2000

Examiner: Jill M. Gray

For: STRING BINDERS AND METHOD FOR MAKING SAME

Attorney Docket No.: 24764A (OC 0149 ROA)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile to: Attn: Examiner Jill M. Gray, Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 fax number (703) 872-9310 on:

12/13/02  
(Date of Deposit)

*Jan. Rostad*  
(Signature)

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Madam:

Applicants submit this Amendment and Request for Reconsideration in response to the non-final Office Action in the above-entitled application, mailed October 24, 2002, and allowing three months for a response. The Applicants will address all the points raised by the Examiner and demonstrate that the present invention is patentable. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 17, 18, 22, 23, 26 and 29 to appear as follows:

17. (Amended) A string binder comprising:  
at least one strand of a fibrous carrier substrate;  
at least one layer of a pre-coating of a catalyst

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GROUP 1700